

City of Las Vegas
State of the City
January 6, 2004

Dear Friends.

Welcome to the City of Las Vegas State of the City address. My council and I are delighted that you join us this evening to share our enthusiasm for what is taking place in our unique city.

As a council we have recognized that our city was founded on rugged individualism, resourcefulness and dreams. Interestingly, our Las Vegas heritage began at the railroad tracks that are but a few blocks from where we convene today. Symbolically, where there was once only desert and fallow ground, we celebrate our vision becoming a reality. In just a short time, we have accomplished what other cities have taken decades to achieve, by virtue of following the values of our founding fathers. Last year during this occasion I said, "The best is yet to come." What was once rhetoric has now become reality in the downtown: The Las Vegas Premium Outlet, where we gather, the World Market Center to our north, the construction of the IRS building, the Ice House, Tinoco's Bistro, City Center apartments, the Holsum Bakery and SoHo Lofts and L'Octaine apartments are just a few of the successes the City Council has nurtured in our effort to create a vibrant, safe, exciting community where people live, work and play in the heart and soul of the valley, the city's urban core.

This is just the beginning. The city, as the master developer of the 61 acres adjoining us, will begin marketing this very valuable "jewel of the desert" to create a mixed-use residential and retail urban village of unique design that will include an academic medical center campus, which we so sorely need, and a performing arts theater for which we thirst.

We salute and thank our supporters who have helped us shape this council's vision for a sophisticated, cosmopolitan city. Without the encouragement

and commitment of our City Manager's Office, city staff and members of the private sector who have dedicated countless hours in sharing their expertise, this council would not be able to accomplish its goals. Because of all the synergy that interweave with one another, our dreams are coming true.

Oscar B. Goodman Las Vegas Mayor





City of Las Vegas State of the City Program

Welcome and Introduction of the City Council By City Manager Douglas Selby

Pledge of Allegiance

"America the Beautiful"
Artistic Direction by Jeff Kriske and Liz Goodman
Sung by the University Children's Chorale

State of the City Address By Mayor Oscar B. Goodman

Immediately following the address a reception will be held.

City of Las Vegas

Vision

A vibrant, affordable and diverse city of opportunity in which all citizens enjoy their neighborhoods, feel safe and know they will be heard.

Mission

To provide residents, visitors and the business community with the highest quality municipal services in an efficient, courteous manner and to enhance the quality of life through planning and visionary leadership.

Priorities

- Aggressively attract diverse businesses to the city regardless of geography.
- Develop and support neighborhood integrity and livability.
- Resolve escalating cost of running a city versus revenue capacity.
- Maintain master planning approach as growth happens.
- · Revitalize and invigorate our mature areas.
- · Strengthen the dialogue between the city and its citizens.
- Development of recreational and leisure opportunities should be of an intergenerational nature.



Ward 1:

"The opening of the Howard Leiburn Senior Center was a highlight for the community and for myself as the new council member. Knowing that this center had been needed for so many years and seeing the joy on the faces of seniors who would make the center their new meeting place made me happy to be a part of the project."

-- Councilwoman Janet Moncrief



Ward 1 Accomplishments:

- Opened a new Walgreens at the Fremont Street Experience, serving downtown workers and tourists. In addition, the city celebrated the opening of nearby Neonopolis, which features a state-of-the-art movie theater and Jillian's entertainment sports bar, arcade and restaurant.
- Opened the first senior center in Ward 1, named after Howard Leiburn, a caring and generous man who was determined to preserve his neighborhood.
- Began the reconstruction of a fire station on Hinson Street and Charleston Boulevard.
- Broke ground on the new medical complex located at Sahara Avenue and Rancho Drive.
- Successfully obtained \$3.5 million from the city of Las Vegas to build an aquatics center at the YMCA, which is located at 4141 Meadows Lane.
- Sponsored an ordinance that updates municipal codes pertaining to abandoned/inoperable vehicles on private property, empowering citizens who wish to maintain the value and beauty of their neighborhoods.
- Continuing efforts to attract and support artists and art studios within the Arts District.
- Making progress in sponsoring an ordinance that prohibits car dealerships from test-driving vehicles in residential areas.
- Making strides in creating an ordinance that addresses the saturation of financial institutions offering auto title, check and payday loans.



Ward 2:

"Soldiers from Nevada have always played an important role in our nation's history since the Civil War. We saw the significance of our military men and women to our nation's present and future as 19 city employees were deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. I am proud to have championed "Patriot Pay" that paid the difference in the military pay and the city salaries of these employees as well as to members of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. The city of Las Vegas was the first



government in Southern Nevada to do so. This initiative made me extremely proud to be a Las Vegas City Councilwoman and even prouder to be an American."

--Councilwoman Lynette Boggs McDonald

Ward 2 Accomplishments:

- As the 2002-2003 president of the Nevada League of Cities and Municipalities, the councilwoman worked to advance the interests of cities, towns and improvement districts around the state. This included the 2003 legislative session, when several proposals that had the potential to adversely affect Nevada's cities were defeated.
- In 2003, the councilwoman spearheaded the Summerlin West agreement between the city of Las Vegas and the Howard Hughes Corporation. This agreement will serve as the blueprint of development for more than 8,000 acres of land west of the I-215 Beltway north of Charleston Boulevard. It is estimated some 30,000 residents will call this portion of Summerlin home in the next 20 years. Through the development agreement, the city of Las Vegas secured a third fire station, a new 25,000 square-foot recreation facility, a new police substation that will be built by the developer and operated by the city of Las Vegas and a regional park.
- Since 1999, more than six million square feet of combined commercial and retail development has been added to the ward, more than some entire American cities in the same span of time.
- The councilwoman was proud to see the council's vote to allocate \$40,000 to the Nevada Women's History Project in order to assist in the commissioning of a statue at the U.S. Capitol for one of Nevada's pioneering women, Native American Sarah Winnemucca.



Ward 3:

"The reconstructed Huntridge Circle Park will be a gem in the downtown community for decades to come. With its artistic features, this newly renovated park is a prime example of what positive things can happen when residents partner with their elected officials to improve their community."

-- Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese



Ward 3 Accomplishments:

- The renovation and grand opening of the historic Huntridge Circle Park, which was designed by the neighbors.
- The grand opening of the Mike Morgan Family Park, named for the former major league baseball pitcher and Las Vegas resident.
- The opening of the East Las Vegas Community Senior Center, which boasts a wide variety of programs and includes a large multipurpose room, classrooms, reading rooms and offices.
- New road projects, including the installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Eastern Avenue and Cedar Avenue, alleyway paving projects and installation of street lights in mature areas of the ward.
- More than 200 citizen complaints successfully addressed in 2003 through the Council Action Request System (CARS).
- Creation of the city's first historic district in Ward 3, the John S. Park Historic District.
- Funding committed for new noise walls along U.S. 95 to protect adjacent neighborhoods.
- Space set aside at the East Las Vegas Community Senior Center for the Hispanic Museum of Nevada.
- Construction of new senior housing units, including the Stewart Pines Phase II and Bonanza Pines.
- Improvements to the Mojave Corridor at Bonanza Road, including a proposed new fire station and construction of a new Girl Scouts building.
- Upgrades to mature parks, including a skate park at Freedom Park, new baseball fields at Hadland Park, new soccer fields at Rafael Rivera Park and renovations at Jaycee Park, Mary Dutton Park and Baker Park.



Ward 4:

"It was so heartening to see the community come together after the flood earlier this year damaged many homes and businesses. The city teamed up with the private sector to rapidly clean the streets and help residents rebuild their lives and recover after one of the worst floods in the city's history."

-- Councilman Lawrence L. Brown III

Ward 4 Accomplishments:

- The opening of the Durango Hills Golf Club, a public-private partnership in which the city built the golf course and it is managed by a private company.
- The opening of the Durango Hills Community Center, built by the city
 of Las Vegas and operated by the YMCA, creating another successful
 community partnership.
- The opening of Fire Stations #44 and #45, which will keep northwest
 Las Vegas even safer. The Fire Safety Initiative passed by city voters in
 November 2000 provided the necessary funding for the new station.
- The recent opening of Phase II of Police Memorial Park, which features two dedicated tree groves to memorialize local police officers who lost their lives in the line of duty and in memory of those citizens who have fallen victim to Lou Gehrig's disease. A memorial wall for Southern Nevada fallen police officers and two trees dedicated to the Ten-13 retired New York Police Officers Club, in memory of the September 11, 2001, tragedy, are also features within this special park.
- Working with the local chapter of the Red Cross and the Small Business Administration to assist residents who were impacted by the floods.
- Spearheading a new water drought ordinance that will save millions of gallons of water and stop waste.
- Approval of the Washington-Buffalo Park, with construction set to begin
 in 2004. The park will feature a regional tennis facility, a regional soccer
 complex, green space areas and a dog run.
- Continued focus on the city of Las Vegas "fiscal policies" to ensure responsibility and accountability in the budget process.





Ward 5:

"Downtown Las Vegas has never looked more promising. You can see it in the neon lights of new developments and in the eyes of people who are looking at the area in a way they never thought they would. It has been a long time coming, but our vision is starting to become a reality."

-Councilman Lawrence Weekly



Ward 5 Accomplishments:

- The revival of downtown Las Vegas through new projects that include the Ice House, Las Vegas Premium Outlet, a new IRS headquarters and several new housing developments including City Center apartments.
- The creation of an educational-recreational corridor in the area of Martin Luther King and Lake Mead Boulevards; new commercial stores including Jack in the Box and Sav-On Drugs, new housing opportunities like the Louise Shell complex, the opening of the Andre Agassi Preparatory Academy and a future charter school that will cater to students in kindergarten to third grade.
- New road and drainage projects that were desperately needed, including the \$11.6 million Owens Avenue-Vegas Drive improvement project.
- A joint effort between the city of Las Vegas and the Las Vegas
 Metropolitan Police Department to clean up East Fremont Street and turn
 it into an entertainment area.
- Construction of Metro's new Downtown Area Command at the northwest corner of Ninth Street and Bonanza Road, thanks in large part to a \$748,000 grant secured by the Nevada congressional delegation.
- The renovation of the historic Ed Fountain Park. Built in 1970, the 18-acre
 park is in the midst of a \$6.1 million renovation that will include five new,
 lighted soccer fields. Two of the fields will use Pro Green Xtreme watersaving artificial turf.
- The renovation of the Doolittle Community Center, which was built in 1967. The \$10.5 million renovation included two gyms, aquatics swim and play area, a new bathhouse, game room, classrooms, computer lab, fitness and dance rooms and a commercial quality kitchen.
- The opening of the new Downtown Community Enforcement Office, which serves as a satellite office for various city departments working to improve the area.



Ward 6:

"Ten years ago, no one would have imagined that more than 2,000 acres in the northwest part of Las Vegas would be home to the successful Centennial Hills Town Center. Now, we are planning for the Kyle Canyon community that will rival any community in the valley. With an ability to think outside the box, the city will continue to be successful when it comes to master-planning."

—Councilman Michael Mack



Ward 6 Accomplishments:

- The creation of Town Center, through the Northwest Area General Plan Amendment that was adopted by the council in December 1996, which master-planned more than 2,000 acres; and the Town Center District Standards that were adopted in 2003 that set land use guidelines for the area.
- The opening of the first phase of Centennial Hills Park, which
 ultimately will become a regional park with a proposed library and
 multigenerational recreation facility.
- The city's dedication to preserving the rural nature of northwest Las
 Vegas by identifying areas that are rural and maintaining its character
 with horse and multipurpose trails.
- Adoption of an interlocal agreement with Clark County that helped preserve the integrity of northwest Las Vegas by eliminating inconsistent zoning and nonconforming land uses.
- Continuing to make northwest Las Vegas a leader in the valley by incorporating art and other aesthetic enhancements into construction projects.
- As vice chairman of the Regional Transportation Commission,
 Councilman Mack assisted with Question 10, the initiative that will help fund important roadway projects in the northwest, including the build-out of the I-215 Beltway, the widening of Rancho Drive and U.S.
 95 and other important road projects.
- Completing a design workshop on the Kyle Canyon Master Plan, offering the city a unique opportunity to test the threshold for sustainable development in the Las Vegas valley.



The City of Las Vegas Top Accomplishments

Building and Safety Department

- Continued to perform initial plan review of projects within three to four days of application submittal, which is the fastest response time in the valley.
- Las Vegas became one of the first major cities in the country to adopt the 2003 International Building and 2003 International Residential Codes, which are considered the most progressive in the country.



Douglas Selby, City Manager

City Manager's Office

Office of the City Clerk

- Utilized e-mail and CD's to an increasing extent for the distributing of public records, which has resulted in a 47% reduction in document copies even though requests have increased by 14% over the last fiscal year.
- Citizens and businesses can now access actions taken at the City Council and Planning Commission within 24 hours of the meetings via the city's website.

Office of Administrative Services

- Hosted a roundtable workshop to discuss the issues of vacant and abandoned properties in Southern Nevada. The city received a \$21,000 grant from the Fannie Mae Foundation and the International City/County Management Association to host the event.
- Successfully acquired federal funding for the Business Incubator project, for the rehabilitation of aging sewers and the design of the Downtown Post Office Museum.

Office of Business Development

 The Downtown Entertainment Overlay District was established to create a safe and secure environment, to revitalize the area and to create incentives for establishment of non-gaming nightclubs, comedy clubs



- and other musical entertainment venues. Through the ordinance, the city seeks to leverage the popularity of the Fremont Street Experience and Neonopolis attractions with the physical proximity of the new district.
- Supported numerous development projects including the Las Vegas
 Premium Outlet, which has created 800 jobs. Chelsea Property Group
 reports its annual sales will generate \$11 million in sales tax revenue.

Office of Communications

- KCLV Channel 2, winner of the 2002 Beacon Award for the nation's best government access television station, successfully completed the move into the city's new studio facility.
- Created an improved Joint Information Center to get critical information to the public and the media during emergencies. City communications staff conducted emergency response training, including a course in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Detention and Enforcement Department

- The city has saved approximately \$10.2 million in net revenues by expanding the jail bed rental program, which is a \$3 million gain from last year.
- Awarded the Triple Crown Accreditation. The standards address
 administration management and organization, personnel issues, the
 physical plant, institutional operations and services, community policing
 and relations, health care and other areas, which ensure professionalism
 in the performance of law enforcement and correctional services. Only
 22 agencies nationwide have achieved the Triple Crown recognition out
 of approximately 17,000.

Field Operations Department

- Provided the City Ride service through the downtown area to senior facilities. The yearly ridership is approximately 300,000.
 - The National Arbor Day Foundation has named Las Vegas as a Tree City USA in recognition of the city's program to care for community trees. This is the eleventh year the city has been awarded such recognition. To receive the Tree City USA designation, a community is required to have a tree care ordinance, a board or department responsible for implementing a community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance. The city of Las Vegas tree ordinance was established in 1950.



Finance and Business Services Department

- Sold \$25 million in municipal bonds to provide facilities to better serve the public, while maintaining our AA bond rating with Fitch Rating Services. An additional \$69 million in municipal bonds were sold to provide for the refunding of tax increment and general obligation bonds. This additional sale saved residents \$6.1 million in total interest savings over the course of the entire bonds
- City taxpayers are no longer footing the bill for cleaning abandoned or vacant property. The Finance Department can now put a lien on property owners who have unsafe property in need of repair or cleaning.

Fire and Rescue Department

- Maintained its ISO Class One rating through an intensive building and hiring program. This rating also ensures that city residents do not pay higher costs for home insurance.
- Responded to 2,895 fire calls, 64,717 emergency medical calls and 4,213 miscellaneous calls in 2003. This is an average of 7 calls per hour, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Human Resources Department

- Created a Safety First Campaign that educated employees about the
 potential dangers associated with the workplace environment. The
 training was a success and the city realized a 24% reduction in time lost
 from employee injuries.
- Enabled employees to access educational opportunities on their own time through the Online Anytime program, which has resulted in a reduction of employees using outside courses and a reduced cost for computer training.

Information Technologies Department

- Responded to citizens with 30% less staff than the national average, resulting in a savings of \$5.9 million to the citizens of Las Vegas.
- Created easier access for citizens through the city's website where citizens can access information on business licensing, building permits, online employment applications, online traffic school and much more.



Leisure Services Department

- Became one of the 47 agencies out of approximately 10,000 parks
 and recreation departments around the country to receive national
 accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and
 Recreation Agencies. The emphasis of the accreditation is on addressing
 155 standards that are elements of effective and efficient park and
 recreation operations.
- The Adaptive Recreation Division awarded the Presidential Citation by the national Therapeutic Recreation Society for its innovative programs offered to Las Vegas residents with disabilities.

Municipal Court

- Contracted with local attorneys, designated as public attorneys, to provide legal representation to individuals who could not afford a lawyer. This move saved the city taxpayer more than \$450,000. During the previous fiscal year, the city of Las Vegas paid Clark County \$864,253 for services provided by the Public Defender's Office. In the first year of the new contract, the public attorneys cost the court less than half that amount -- \$413,487.
- Municipal Court's Work Program provided 2,968 defendants who, in turn, provided 37,557 hours of unencumbered labor worth \$512,284 to city departments.

Neighborhood Services Department

- Produced a new Neighborhood Partnership brochure in English and Spanish to assist residents in gaining an understanding of city services available to those interested in forming neighborhood associations.
- Funded 25 Youth Neighborhood Association Partnership Program grants totaling \$25,000 that generated a community match of \$181,902 in volunteer time, in-kind donations of goods and services and financial contributions. Since its inception in 1999, the YNAPP program has involved more than 2,000 youth in improving their neighborhoods and the community through city funding of 72 grants at a city cost of \$69,200 which leveraged almost a half million dollars from the community.



Planning and Development Department

- Received the prestigious DeBoer Excellence In Planning Award for outstanding planning achievement and outstanding planning programs, techniques and tools.
- Has become more efficient by tracking land use applications, building permits and business licenses through the use of the Hansen automated system.

Public Works Department

- Completed \$43 million in public safety projects during 2003. These
 include roadway improvements, overpasses, four major thoroughfares
 and storm drainage projects.
- Received the American Public Works Association 2003 Minor Project of the Year Award for the Lewis Avenue Corridor Project.

City of Las Vegas Community Achievements

- City employees personally contributed \$84,585 to the United Way
 Campaign, which is a 64 percent increase from the prior year and made
 the city the leader in local government contributions to the United
 Way.
- More than 300 city employees participated in the Angel Tree program over the holiday. Presents were donated to children of families in need during the holiday season.
- City of Las Vegas employees donated a total of 165 units of blood in 2003.



Thank You

The city of Las Vegas would like to extend a special thank you to all who attended, coordinated and performed at the State of the City Address.

The University Children's Chorale
Las Vegas Premium Outlet
Leisure Services Department
Cultural Affairs Division
Special Events Unit
Detention and Enforcement
Graphic Arts Services
City Manager's Office

